

Bahrain National Day

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Good Morning,

BGR Group represents the Kingdom of Bahrain. As a member of the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, I am sure your boss is aware of the vital security partnership between the U.S. and Bahrain. I know it would be greatly appreciated if your boss would release a statement recognizing Bahrain's National Day on December 17th.

Celebrating the independence of Bahrain and the return of the Al Khalifa royal family to the throne in 1971, Bahrain's 50th national day celebration comes amidst a challenging but hopeful time in the region. Bahrain has participated in the Abraham Accords and the historic normalization of relations with Israel, which included the recent inauguration of Bahrain's first embassy in Israel, the dispatchment of the first ambassador to Israel, and the acceptance of the first Israeli ambassador to Bahrain. Additionally, the two countries recently began operating commercial flights between Tel Aviv and Manama for the first time. Deepening regional cooperation and coordination is crucial for a more prosperous, predictable, and peaceful Middle East – ideals Bahrain remains committed to.

Additionally, at a time when the U.S. is reducing our footprint in the region, Bahrain is stepping up to ensure U.S. national interests are prioritized. Bahrain enabled the evacuation of thousands from the Kabul airport through Manama during the U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan, and is on the front lines confronting Iranian malicious influence in the region. Beyond hosting the U.S. Navy's 5th fleet, the preeminent regional expression of U.S. force projection, Bahrain is also entering in novel partnerships with the U.S. and Israel to address the proliferation of Iranian unmanned aerial technology.

In light of the continued deepening of U.S.-Bahrain ties, and in recognition of their valued partnership in challenging circumstances, **we request a statement from your office recognizing Bahrain's National Day before the Embassy hosts a celebration on December 7th.**

Please let me know if you have any questions, or would like to engage further with the Embassy over the vital security relationship between the U.S. and Bahrain.

Best,
Mark

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